

117TH MEETING OF THE TENNESSEE ACADEMY OF SCIENCE
15-16 NOVEMBER 2007
VOLUNTEER STATE COMMUNITY COLLEGE
GALLATIN, TENNESSEE

TERESA L. FULCHER, SECRETARY TAS

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The annual meeting of the Tennessee Academy of Science (TAS) was held in Gallatin, Tennessee, 15-16 November 2007 on the campus of Volunteer State Community College (VSCC) with TAS President George E. Webb presiding. President-elect Cindi Smith-Walters served as Program Chairperson. The VSCC Local Arrangements Committee Chairperson was Nancy G. Morris.

The TAS Executive Committee met Thursday evening, 15 November 2007, in the Carpeted Dining Room of the Wood Campus Center following dinner. On Friday, 16 November 2007, the General Session, Annual Business Meeting, Symposium on Undergraduate STEM Education and Plenary Address were held in the Pickel Field House. The General Session began with a welcome from Volunteer State Community College President Dr. Warren Nichols. Dr. Linda Slakey, National Science Foundation, led the symposium, "Directions in Undergraduate STEM Education". Mr. Kent Syler, Chief of Staff for U.S. Congressman Bart Gordon, delivered the Plenary Address, "Rising Above the Gathering Storm" which focused on economic globalization and the opportunities and challenges it presents for education in Tennessee. The Poster Session was open to attendees from 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM. The Association of Science Department Chairs met in the Moore Conference Room of the Thigpen Library at 9:00 AM. Lunch was served in the Rochelle Center. Section business meetings and paper presentations were held in the Warf and Wallace Buildings as printed in the program.

ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING
16 November 2007

Tennessee Academy of Science President George E. Webb convened the Annual Business Meeting of the Tennessee Academy of Science at 11:05 AM in the Pickel Field House on the campus of VSCC, Gallatin, Tennessee, and determined by the attendance that a quorum was present. A motion to suspend the reading of the minutes was made by John Harris and seconded by Michael Redding. The motion passed. A motion to accept new members was made by Chad Brooks and seconded by George Murphy. The motion passed. The names of new members during 2007 will be published in the *Journal of the Tennessee Academy of Science*.

President Webb offered thanks to those who worked to organize the meeting: Local Arrangements Chairperson Nancy Morris, Meeting Coordinator Michael Redding, and President-elect Cindi Smith-Walters.

Tennessee Junior Academy of Science (TJAS) Director Jack Rhoton summarized the report printed in full in the minutes of the Executive Committee meeting. Director Rhoton noted that the Junior Academy represented the oldest secondary science competition in the State. It began in 1942 on the campus of Peabody College in Nashville. Rhoton has been director since 1992. Director Rhoton commented on the quality of papers in the competition. Each year, students with the top two papers receive a \$500 award. The top eight to ten papers are published in the Junior Academy Handbook and mailed to high schools around the State. Director Rhoton then presented the 2007 TAS Distinguished Secondary Science Teacher Award to Ronnie Nixon, a chemistry and physics teacher at Greenbrier High School in Greenbrier, Tennessee.

Treasurer Steve Murphree discussed the Treasurer's Report and distributed copies. The report can be viewed in its entirety in the 15 November 2007 Executive Committee meeting minutes. Treasurer Murphree noted that the Academy has added four additional institutional memberships. Kurt Blum made a motion to accept the Treasurer's report. John Harris seconded. There was no discussion and the motion carried.

Managing Editor Gore Ervin summarized the report published in its entirety in the minutes of the 16 November 2006 Executive Committee meeting. He commented that an outstanding issue of *The Journal of the Tennessee Academy of Science* will be published in January. Manager Ervin noted that this is his last time to report as Managing Editor and thanked the Academy for the great experience. President Webb expressed thanks to Gore Ervin for his hard work.

Secretary Teresa Fulcher read the Resolution of Appreciation, prepared by the resolutions Committee and Chairperson Sallie Noel. The resolution expressed appreciation to the host institution, VSCC, and the Local Arrangements Committee for the successful meeting. A motion to accept the resolution passed. The Resolution is printed in full in the 15 November 2007 Executive Committee meeting minutes.

Past President and Nominating Committee Chairperson John Harris presented the slate of officers for 2008: President-elect Gore Ervin, Middle Tennessee State University; Treasurer Steven Murphree, Belmont University; Secretary Teresa Fulcher, Pellissippi State Community College; Managing Editor Stephen Stedman, Tennessee Technological University. Michael Redding moved to accept the nominees. Cindi Smith-Walters seconded the motion and the motion carried.

President George E Webb called for membership consideration of The Tennessee Academy of Science Statement on the Teaching of Evolution. A copy of this statement was found in each registrant's package, was distributed electronically on the TAS website, and via the newsletter to the membership. Dr. George Murphy made the motion to accept the statement. Dr. Charles McGhee seconded the motion. The motion passed with no opposition.

The Tennessee Academy of Science Statement on the Teaching of Evolution is printed below (p. 44) in this issue.

A President's plaque was presented to 2006 TAS President John Harris with great acknowledgment of his service to TAS.

President George E. Webb passed the gavel to 2008 TAS President Cindi Smith-Walters who adjourned the meeting at 11:34 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

TERESA L. FULCHER

SECRETARY, TAS

Pellissippi State Technical Community College